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A NEW SPECIES OF AMNICOLA FROM AN ARKANSAS CAVE (HYDROBIIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

A blind cave snail, Amnicola cora, is described from Independence Co., Arkansas.

Amnicola cora, new species

Figs. 1-3

Description: Shell small, broadly conic, wider than high, thin, subhyaline, pale-yellow; whorls 3.3, well-rounded the last whorl lightly appressed to the preceding whorl, sutures very deep, nuclear whorl slightly raised; umbilicus open, about one-fifth the diameter of the shell; aperture nearly round, peristome continuous, barely attached to the preceding whorl, lip thin, columellar margin not reflected or bent; sculpture of many fine spiral lines, operculum corneus, multispiral, with about 5 whorls.

Animal white and blind, without any trace of eyes; verge bifid, rather stout; central tooth of the radula with 11 denticles on the reflection, one moderately large mesocone and 5 ectocones on each side; lateral tooth with 11 denticles, one moderately large mesocone, 3 entocones, and 7 ectocones; marginal teeth with numerous small denticles.

Height 1.6 mm, diameter 2.0 mm, aperture height 1.0 mm, aperture width 0.9 mm, umbilicus diameter 0.4 mm, 3.3 whorls. Holotype.

Distribution: ARKANSAS: Independence County: stream in Foushee Case, 3 miles west of Locust Grove (Type Locality) (Norman & Jean Young-

steadt; Leslie Hubricht, collectors) holotype 193762, and paratypes 193763, Field Museum of Natural History, other paratypes 47584, 47585, collection of the author.

Remarks: Amnicola cora is most closely related to A. stygia Hubricht from cave streams in Perry Co., Missouri. It differs in being smaller, with more slowly expanding whorls, the shell is not as fragile, and the operculum is multispiral rather than paucispiral. It is named for the Attic goddess, Cora, Queen of Hades.

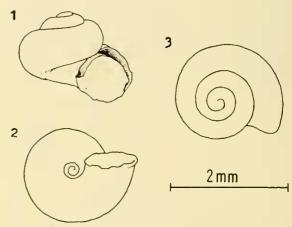


FIG. 1-3. Amnicola cora Hubricht, holotype. Drawings courtesy of Elisabeth A. Leibman, Field Museum of Natural History.